Archie COMICS

ISSUE 29

MEGA MAN™

"THE COMIC I LOOK FORWARD TO READING THE MOST EVERY MONTH!" - COMICS ALLIANCE

CAPCOM

MEGA MAN 25th ANNIVERSARY

FLYNN
CAVALLARO
MARTIN

BLACKOUT

THE CURSE OF RA MOON

PART ONE (OF FOUR)

SPAZ

ARCHIECOMICS.COM

IN THE YEAR 20XX, A SUPER ROBOT NAMED MEGA MAN HAS PLEDGED TO STOP THE EVIL DESIRES OF DR. WILY AND PROTECT THE WORLD. MEGA MAN NOW FIGHTS ALONGSIDE HIS FELLOW ROBOT MASTERS TO DEFEAT THE FORCES OF EVIL!

MEGA MAN™

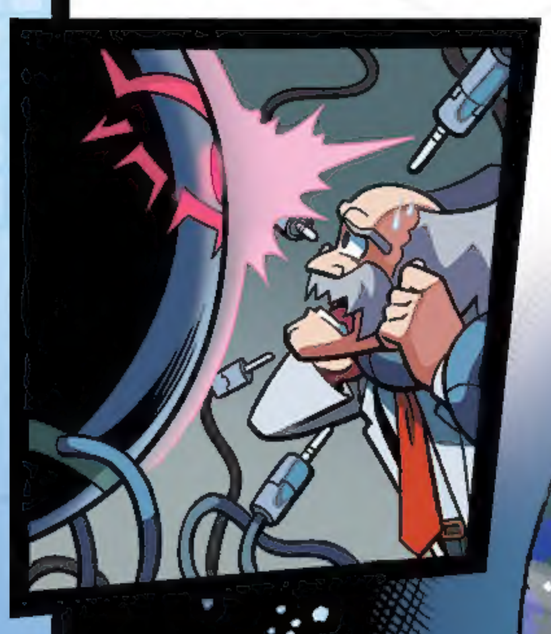
PREVIOUSLY...

Mega Man's birthday bash turned into a birthday clash when Break Man – aka Mega Man's long lost brother, Blues – arrived!

As the brothers battled, Mega Man's sister, Roll, attempted to stop the fighting only to be critically damaged in the crossfire.

Meanwhile, far away in the jungle, the evil Dr. Wily prepared his latest scheme for world domination alongside his new ally, the mysterious alien being known as RA MOON. After building an army of robot masters based off of Wily's designs, Ra Moon betrayed the wicked doctor and initiated a worldwide blackout, which "switched off" all technology across the planet! Including Mega Man!

Ra Moon's army of robot masters remain unaffected by the blackout, and the rest of the planet has been left defenseless!



With Mega Man offline, it appears as though nothing can stop this curse of Ra Moon...

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SYSTEM REBOOT...

THE CURSE OF RA MOON
Part One: BAD MOON RISING

LIGHT LABS...

REBOOT COMPLETE. YOUR BOY'S AWAKE, THOMAS. I'M DRAINING THE SYSTEM NOW.

OH, THANK HEAVENS!

DOCTOR LIGHT! WHAT HAPPENED?! I WAS FIGHTING THAT WEIRD ROBOT, THEN HE SHOT ROLL, AND NOW I'M COVERED IN STUFF AND THE LAB'S A WRECK AND--!

COME HERE, SON. IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT!

I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING --OR AT LEAST WHAT I CAN. FIRST, I NEED YOU TO TO RUN A SELF-DIAGNOSTIC.

I'M FINE, ASIDE FROM A FEW MINOR MEMORY ERRORS. MY INTERNAL CLOCK SAYS I'VE BEEN OFFLINE FOR...FOR...

TWO WEEKS, YOU...AND VIRTUALLY ALL TECHNOLOGY ON EARTH WERE FORCED OFFLINE TWO WEEKS AGO. IT TOOK US THAT LONG TO DEVELOP THE COATING THAT'S PROTECTING YOUR SYSTEMS NOW.

PROTECT THEM--? NO, WAIT--

WHERE'S ROLL?

IS SHE ...?

SHE'S STABLE, BUT DAMAGED VERY BADLY. I'D NEED MY BEST TOOLS TO DO THE REPAIRS AND PRESERVE HER I.C. CHIP, AND ALL OF THOSE ARE OFF-LINE. THE FLUID SOLUTION THAT'S PROTECTING YOU WOULD ONLY COMPLICATE THE DAMAGED PIECES. I'M SORRY, ROCK. THIS CAPSULE WILL KEEP HER SAFE FOR NOW, BUT WITH THE WAVE INTENSIFYING DAILY, I'M AFRAID HER CONDITION WILL WORSEN ...UNTIL...

NO!

WHAT WAVE? TELL ME HOW TO *FIX* THIS.

THERE'S AN ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVE AFFECTING THE ENTIRE WORLD. IT'S WHAT CAUSED THE GLOBAL BLACKOUT, FORCED YOU OFFLINE, AND MADE FOR ALL THE COMPLICATIONS PREVENTING US FROM REPAIRING YOUR SISTER. IN SHORT, IT SHOWED JUST HOW DEPENDENT WE'VE BECOME ON MODERN TECHNOLOGY.

TECHNOLOGY THAT, WHEN FIXED, WILL ENSURE A SWIFT RECOVERY FOR US ALL. ROCK, THIS IS DR. PEDRO ASTIL. HE'S AN OLD COLLEAGUE OF MINE, AND AN INVALUABLE HELP IN MANAGING THIS CRISIS.

I WAS IN TOWN FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY. YOU CERTAINLY LEAD AN ADVENTUROUS LIFE.*

HELLO.

*SEE MEGA MAN #23 AND 28.

WHILE WE'RE MAKING INTRODUCTIONS, THIS IS PLANT MAN. HE'S A ROBOT MASTER I DESIGNED WITH THOMAS' HELP. THANKS TO HIS UNIQUE BOTANICAL BASIS, HE MANAGED TO BARELY ENDURE THE BLACKOUT.

HOLA. IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET THE FAMOUS MEGA MAN.

HAPPY TO SEE ANOTHER ROBOT ONLINE!

NOW TELL ME WHERE I NEED TO GO TO FIX ALL THIS!

HOLD ON, ROCK. YOU *JUST* CAME BACK ONLINE. YOU *NEED* TO...

I *NEED* TO SAVE MY SISTER! I *NEED* TO SAVE THE WORLD! SO WHERE DO I GO AND HOW DO I DO IT?!

SIGH WE DON'T KNOW FOR CERTAIN, BUT PEDRO HAS OUR BEST LEAD.

YOU MEAN OUR *ONLY* LEAD. AND EVEN THOUGH I WAS THERE, I STILL FEEL LIKE I'M TELLING A GHOST STORY.

WHY? WHAT HAPPENED?

FOUR YEARS AGO, IN THE HEART OF THE AMAZON...

...THE *LANFRONT RUINS* AROSE FROM THE GROUND.

"BEFORE THAT DAY, THERE WAS NOTHING BUT JUNGLE. THEN AN EARTHQUAKE JUST HAPPENS TO PUSH THE ENTIRE ANCIENT CITY TO THE SURFACE? **INTACT?** THAT IS NOT NATURAL.

"I WAS PART OF A RESEARCH TEAM ASSEMBLED BY THE UNITED NATIONS AND COMMISSIONED TO INVESTIGATE THE SITE. WE JOKED THAT WE WERE BEING SENT TO THE LAND-EQUIVALENT OF THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE.

"GOING IN, OUR BIGGEST WORRY WAS ABOUT AFTERSHOCKS."

"THE E.M. FIELD AROUND THE RUINS KNOCKED OUR CHOPPERS OUT OF THE SKY. IT BLEW ELENA'S HEARING AID OUT OF HER EAR.

"SAMUEL HAD A PACE-MAKER THAT...

"...WELL, LET'S JUST SAY WE WEREN'T ALL LUCKY ENOUGH TO WALK AWAY."

"WHAT WAS LEFT OF OUR U.N. ESCORT WENT INTO THE JUNGLE, TRYING TO GET FAR ENOUGH AWAY TO RADIO FOR HELP.

"I LED THE REMAINS OF OUR RESEARCH PARTY DESPITE MY INJURIES. I WAS DETERMINED TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON IN THOSE RUINS. I HAD LOST TOO MANY FRIENDS..."

...AND PART OF MYSELF.

"AFTER WE WERE RESCUED, I SPENT THE NEXT THREE YEARS PETITIONING TO GO BACK, TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON THERE. BUT NOBODY WANTED TO RISK MORE LIVES OR SPEND THE MONEY."

LAST YEAR, THE U.N. HAD THE ENTIRE SITE SET OFF-LIMITS. I JUST... I KNOW IT SOUNDS STUPID, BUT IT FEELS LIKE THERE WAS SOMETHING *MALEVOLENT* ABOUT THAT PLACE. THAT THE PHENOMENON WAS OUT FOR BLOOD...

...BUT WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH THE GLOBAL BLACK-OUT?

SORRY! I GUESS I GOT CARRIED AWAY...

THE POINT I WAS TRYING TO MAKE IS THIS: FOUR YEARS AGO, THE LANFRONT RUINS WERE SOMEHOW PRODUCING AN E.M. FIELD STRONG ENOUGH TO KNOCK OUT ANY ELECTRONIC DEVICE WITHIN HUNDREDS OF METERS. *NOTHING* ELSE LIKE IT EXISTS ON EARTH.

SO WHILE WE'RE PRETTY SURE WE KNOW *WHERE* THE WAVE IS COMING FROM, WE HAVE NO IDEA *WHAT* IS CAUSING IT, LET ALONE HOW TO DEAL WITH IT.

THEN I'LL FIGURE IT OUT AS I GO! PUT THAT COATING ON RUSH, AND WE'LL FLY TO THE RUINS!

ALL RIGHT, BUT YOU'LL NEED MORE SUPPORT THAN JUST RUSH. THE OTHER ROBOT MASTERS SUFFERED ONLY SUPERFICIAL DAMAGE, SO WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET THEM BACK ONLINE. BUT WE'LL NEED TO HURRY...

...AT *BEST*, THAT PROTECTIVE COATING WILL LAST ANOTHER WEEK. WE CAN'T PRODUCE ENOUGH FOR MULTIPLE COATINGS, AND AT THE RATE THE E.M. WAVE IS INTENSIFYING...

ORGANIC BIOLOGY WILL BEGIN SUFFERING, TOO.

THEN LET'S GET TO WORK!

AND SO, THE WORK BEGINS...

INTO--THE--*UGH*--IMMUNI-ZATION TUBE--YOU--UGH--GO!

GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK, AUTO! NOW LET'S GET TO HELPING THE OTHERS!

RUSH
MEGA MAN'S FAITHFUL DOG

CUT MAN
DLN-003

BOMB MAN
DLN-006

TOO ...HEAVY...TO THINK...OF PUN!

GUTS MAN DLN-004

GOOD!

HRRGH! OKAY... SO I'M FOLLOWING THE WHOLE "WORLD IS IN PERIL" THING...

WHEW!

...BUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT JERK WHO TRASHED YOUR BIRTHDAY PARTY? I'D HATE IT IF HE GOT AWAY!

ACTUALLY... I REMEMBER YOU THREE GOING OFF-LINE, BUT HE SEEMED FINE.

AND THEN ROLL SAID HE MIGHT BE OUR BROTHER.

DOCTOR LIGHT?

I...I CAN'T BE *COMPLETELY* CERTAIN, BUT...

TWO WEEKS AGO...

...SO SORRY... YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE... I JUST WANTED TO...

...BLUES? SON... IS IT REALLY YOU?

THIS ISN'T HOW IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE. ANY OF IT.

HERE. THIS WILL PROTECT YOUR NEW KIDS. I'M SURE YOU'VE GOT A *REPLACE-MENT* COMPUTER SOMEWHERE THAT CAN READ THIS.

"AND THEN HE WAS GONE."

THE DATA THAT HE GAVE ME ALLOWED US TO DEVELOP THE PROTECTIVE COATING. HE GAVE ME THE ANSWER TO ONE PROBLEM, BUT RAISED SO MANY MORE QUESTIONS...

BUT...IF IT WAS BLUES, WHY DID HE ATTACK ME? WHY DID HE SHOOT ROLL?

AND IF HE'S GONE BAD, WHY WOULD HE HELP US?!

I DON'T KNOW, SON. IT'S THE NOT-KNOWING THAT KILLS ME... I JUST WISH I COULD HELP HIM.

BUT FOR NOW, IT'D BE BEST TO FOCUS ON THE CRISIS AT HAND.

RIGHT. SO ONCE THIS OVER-GROWN NUTCRACKER IS UP AND RUNNING, HOW EXACTLY ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GET ALL THE WAY TO THE AMAZON?

THE ITEM-2 HOVERBOARDS DON'T HAVE THE RANGE, AND I DON'T THINK WE CAN ALL FIT ON RUSH JET.

THOMAS, DO YOU STILL HAVE YOUR OLD HOBBY-PROJECT PLANE?

GREAT SCOTT! I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN ABOUT THAT OLD THING!

IT'S BEEN STORED FOR SO LONG, IT MIGHT STILL BE INTACT!

AUTO! ROCK! FOLLOW ME AND START GRABBING PARTS!

"THIS MIGHT JUST WORK!"

AND SO...

NOT TO KNOCK YOUR GENIUS, DOC, BUT ARE YOU *SURE* THIS OLD THING WILL GET US THERE?

IT'S NOT PRETTY, BUT IT'S ALL I HAD ON HAND. AND IT WILL FLY. WE USED THE LAST OF THE COATING SOLUTION ON IT, SO YOU *SHOULD* MAKE IT THERE.

AW, DON'T SWEAT IT, DOC. WE'LL GET THE JOB DONE.

I-I-I'M SU-UR-URE YOU WI-I-I-ILL!

COMING WITH US TO *ROOT* OUT THE SOURCE OF THE WAVE, PLANT MAN?

UH..., NO. I'M GOING TO STAY HERE AND HELP THE DOCTORS. WE NEED TO FIND A WAY TO EXPAND THE REACH OF THE PROTECTIVE COATING SOLUTION. IF WE CAN GET MORE ROBOT MASTERS WORKING, MAYBE THEY CAN HELP MANAGE THE CHAOS.

SO LET'S GO, ALREADY! *HONK-HONK!* WHERE'S MEGS?

SAYING FAREWELL.

HANG ON, SIS. I KNOW YOU'RE STRONG ENOUGH TO SURVIVE. I'LL STOP THE WAVE, AND THEN DR. LIGHT WILL FIX YOU, AND WE'LL BE TOGETHER AGAIN LIKE ALWAYS.

C'MON, RUSH.

MAYBE WITH OUR BROTHER...EVEN IF HE'S GOT A LOT TO ANSWER FOR.

MANY HOURS LATER-- TEMPLE OF THE MOON-- RA MOON'S CHAMBER.

BWORHP-KZZT!

CLANG

BLAM!

DOCTOR WILY? WHAT DID YOU *DO*? THE WORLD IS--

YOU ARE NOT ONE OF MINE. DIE!

BREAK MAN?! IN HERE, MY BOY! HURRY!

IT *IS* YOU! YOU'RE ACTUALLY HERE! HOW DID YOU--?!

THE TELEPORTER ARRAY IS STILL FUNCTIONING. *BARELY.* I MADE A LOT OF SHORT HOPS AND *WALKED* THE REST OF THE WAY. I HAD A LOT OF TIME TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE WORLD.

AH! YES, YES, THANK SPUTNIK FOR SATELLITES! DID YOU BRING ANY FOOD?

NO. WHAT DID YOU--

BLAST! I'M TIRED OF SNEAKING RATIONS PAST RA MOON. ARE YOU INTACT? MEGA MAN DIDN'T ROUGH YOU UP TOO BAD?

NO. I DON'T WANT TO DISCUSS IT. WHAT DID--

AND THAT E.M. IMMUNITY I INSTALLED ISN'T HAVING ANY HICCUPS?

WHAT.

DID.

YOU.

DO?

I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING! IT WAS ALL RA MOON'S FAULT!

YOU PLANNED...

SO WHY AREN'T YOU DEAD?

I-I DON'T KNOW!

MAYBE HE CAN'T REACH ME DOWN HERE? OR HE DOESN'T WANT TO WASTE THE EFFORT?

I PLANNED A LITTLE CONTROLLED CHAOS! JUST ENOUGH TO GET THE WORLD'S ATTENTION! BUT RA MOON *USED* ME, AND NOW HE'S OUT TO WIPE OUT ALL OF HUMAN AND ROBOT-KIND!

MAYBE HE'S JUST TOYING WITH ME...

FINE. I'LL DESTROY HIM.

WHAT? *SOLO?* RA MOON'S FAR TOO POWERFUL --EVEN FOR YOU!

THEN I'LL CALL IN YOUR ROBOT MASTERS...

NO! EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM WAS WORKED ON BY RA MOON! THERE'S A CHANCE HE MODIFIED THEIR CODING AGAINST ME! YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I FIXED MYSELF-- THE ONLY ONE I CAN TRUST!

I'M *NOT* GOING TO HIDE IN THE DARK WHILE EVERY-ONE DIES!

OF COURSE NOT! YOU'RE GOING TO BE MY BODYGUARD IN CASE RA MOON CHANGES HIS MIND AND COMES FOR ME! I'VE GOT TO FINISH RA THOR!

"RA THOR?"

I'M USING WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT THAT OVERSIZED SPACE-EYEBALL* TO BUILD THE *ULTIMATE* ROBOT MASTER! RA MOON WILL FALL TO HIS OWN POWER! *HA HA HA!*

RA MOON THINKS HE CAN TAKE MY TECH AND TURN IT AGAINST ME, *EH?* WELL, THE JOKE'S ON HIM!

*FOR THE FULL SCOOP ON THE SINISTER ALIEN RA MOON AND HIS ORIGIN, SEE LAST ISSUE. --EDITOR.

"FOR NOW, WE LIE LOW. IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S ANYONE WHO CAN HELP US NOW, ANWAY."

SO, *HEY,* I WAS THINKING...THERE'S *ONE* GOOD THING TO COME FROM ALL THIS. WITH THE E.M. FIELD GOING, DR. WILY CAN'T POP UP WITH ANY NASTY SURPRISES!

HEH, I SUPPOSE YOU CAN LOOK AT IT THAT WAY...

CRASH!

SHING!

SHING!

SHING!

CRASH!

SNAP!

SNAP!

FWUMP!

THAT WAS *AWESOME!*

WE ALMOST DIED!

BUT WE DIDN'T! EPIC CRASH-LANDING! *WOO!*

GUYS, WE WERE *SHOT DOWN.* THE ATTACKERS MIGHT BE NEARBY. KEEP IT DOWN!

THAT WASN'T WHERE--OR *HOW* --WE PLANNED ON LANDING. ANY IDEA WHERE WE ARE, SIR?

NO, BUT RUSH WILL FIND A WAY, WON'T YOU, BOY?

SEE? C'MON, GUYS! LET'S HURRY UP AND FIND--

TROUBLE?

BECAUSE YOU'VE *DEFINITELY* FOUND *TROUBLE.*

BUBBLE MAN
H-2 UH-UH

SEE? I *TOLD* YOU GUYS. THEY'D HAVE TO COME PAST US. *AHHHH...*

HEAT MAN
TOO HOT TO HANDLE

FLASH MAN
TIME CONTROL

METAL MAN
VICIOUS SLICE

IT...IT'S THE WILY ROBOT MASTERS! THEY'VE BEEN REBUILT?!

SWEET! DON'T HOG 'EM ALL TO YOURSELF THIS TIME, MEGS!

BOMBS--!

--EYE?

ACTUALLY, IT'S "BANZAI."

SHING!

BUT... THE E.M. FIELD! HOW ARE THEY--?!

NEVER MIND! TAKE 'EM DOWN!

I DON'T KNOW *HOW* YOU'RE FUNCTIONING OR EVEN *KNEW* TO COME HERE, BUT YOU'RE NOT GETTING PAST MY PATROL. THERE'S NO QUICK MAN (OR HIS EGO) TO SAVE YOU THIS TIME, KID.*

*SEE MEGA MAN VOL. 3 GRAPHIC NOVEL.

"AND NO ASININE INFECTED WEAPON DATA PLOT TO HOLD US BACK!"

VWOUSH!

SPLASH!

AND *THIS* IS YOUR BACK-UP? INDUSTRIAL-GRADE ROBOTS?

FWASH

WHAT CAN THEY DO AGAINST *WEAPONS* LIKE US?

WEAPONS WHO CAN STOP TIME IN A **FLASH!**

RUSH! *LOOK OUT!*

I DON'T WANNA SAY HE HAS A POINT, BUT...

I KNOW, I KNOW! MAKES ME WISH I *HAD* HELD ON TO THEIR WEAPON DATA...

STUPID DOG!

CLANG

"...I'D EVEN KNOW WHICH OF THEIR POWERS WERE THE MOST EFFECTIVE AGAINST EACH OF THEM..."

...UNLESS *WE* COULD DO THE NEXT BEST THING...

DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?

I HOPE SO! WE REALLY NEED SOME DIRECTION HERE, SIR!

LISTEN UP! I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU YOUR TARGETS!

THIS HAD BETTER WORK --OR WE'RE ALL FALLING RIGHT HERE... AND THEN ROLL AND THE REST OF THE WORLD WILL BE NEXT!

THE END OF THE WORLD DRAWS CLOSER!
WHEN EVERY SECOND COUNTS, DOES *MEGA MAN* HAVE TIME TO ENGAGE IN BATTLE?! AND IF OUR HEROES ARE DEFEATED HERE, *WHO WILL STOP RA MOON?*

BLACKOUT: THE CURSE OF RA MOON
CONTINUES IN MEGA MAN™ #30!

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YOUR MEGA MAN FAN ART

Myra E. sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

Ben D. sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

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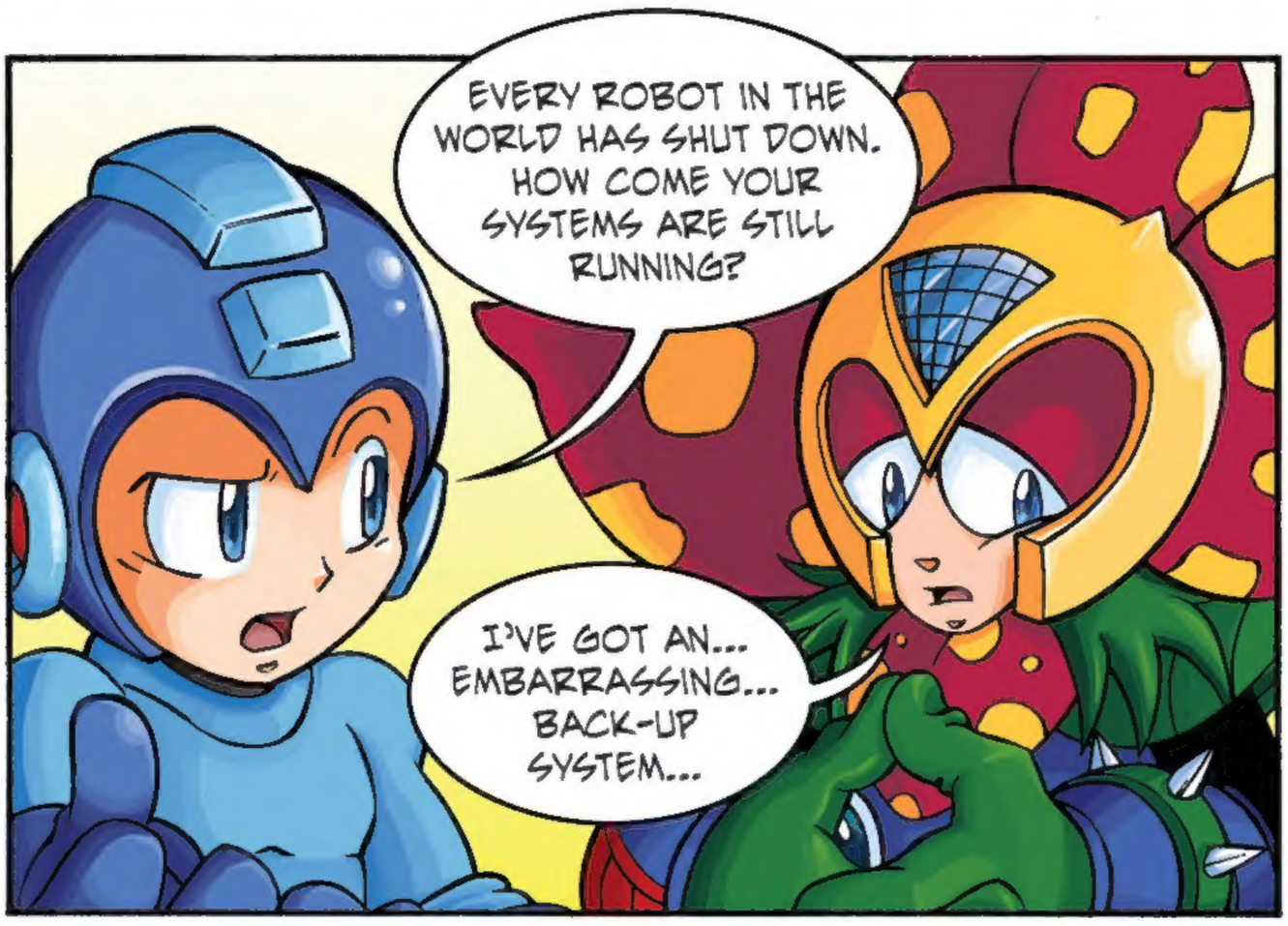
- SHORT CIRCUITS -

SCRIPT: IAN FLYNN PENCILS: LAMAR WELLS INKS: KENT ARCHER COLORS: VINCENT LOVALLO



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MEGA-MAIL

WRITE TO US @: MEGA-MAIL c/o ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX # 419 MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL: MEGAMAN@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

Dear Mega-Mail,
Have you ever read something that you absolutely love, and whenever it's over you just think "I can't wait for more"? That's how I feel about every issue of the crossover arc! I can tell that you guys have put a lot of thought and heart into this.

Glad to hear you enjoyed the "Worlds Collide" story! We had a lot of fun making it!

I especially love all the game references, to both Mega Man and Sonic. When I saw Big and Quint playing cards I nearly died! Plus, seeing Wily and Eggman interact has been sheer joy. I know you guys will get this after you've finished the entire arc, so let me just say that it was a job well done! Thank you for the awesome comics and I look forward to reading more from all three books!

- Jason sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for the kind words, Jason! We hope you enjoy what we have planned for the future! And just in case some of you missed the epic crossover story, you can pre-order volume 1 of Sonic and Mega Man: Worlds Collide via the coupon in this very issue! Act now for a special discount! Plugplugplugplug!

Dear Mega-Mail,
I just thought I'd start off by saying that I love the comic so far and I can't wait to see how you tell the stories in the future! I've sent a message before, but didn't get in. But just like the great Dr. Wily, I didn't give up! I will keep trying to get in, even if it takes forever!!!

Forever takes too long, welcome to my humble abode! Even super villains can have admirable qualities, right?

The Worlds Collide crossover event has been fantastic! I'm glad I got to experience it! Could you tell Mr. Bates that I love him? I'm still young, so I haven't seen as much art as you all have, but Ben Bates just stole my heart! I hope he makes a return in the future!

Ben did a great job on the final stretch of the crossover, especially with ALL OF THOSE ROBOT MASTERS! You won't be seeing the last of him!

Mega Man is easily my favorite video game series and to see the story told in such a fine manner just blows me away! The plots are amazing, all of the artists put in their best for each arc, and I can really see the personality of each character, something others have had trouble with! Again, your comics are quality and I love them! Let's all hope for many more years of Mega Man comics! For everlasting peace!!

Your fan,
Ben D. sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

P.S.- I love you Ben Bates... also, can Dust Man get some special treatment when he comes around?

I'm sure Ben will be pleased to know that he has such an adoring fan like you to support him! Thanks for writing in, Ben! Look forward to more Mega action in upcoming issues!

Speaking of awesome upcoming issues, we'll see y'all next time for part two of BLACKOUT the Curse of Ra Moon!

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO **MEGA-MAIL!** C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC P.O. BOX #419 MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419 EMAIL: MEGAMAN@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

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